GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2789
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2001
AMENDMENT IN SHARELA ACT TO CHECK CHILD MARRIAGE IN RAJASTHAN
JASWANT SINGH YADAV

Will the Minister of LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Sharela Act in order to check growing incidence of child marriages especially in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the time by which a new legislation in this regard to be brought before the Parliament; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) to (c) : There is no Act known as the Sharela Act. The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 is, of course, also popularly known as the Sharda Act. The National Commission for Women has proposed some amendments in the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929, and its proposals have been circulated to all the State Governments and Union territory Administration to elicit their views. So far, 9 State Governments/Union territory Administrations, including State Government of Rajasthan, have agreed to the recommendations made by the National Commission for Women in this regard. The Government would take a view in the matter after obtaining the views of the remaining State Governments/Union territory Administrations in this matter.